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Contents for Week of January 16, 1928. Vol. VI. No. 25

1. Costa Rica: The Banana Station on Lindbergh's Good Will Trip.
2. Commander Byrd Tells of Plans for Antarctic Exploration.
3. Baguio: One Residence of the New Governor of the Philippines.
4. American Religious Sect Finds a New Home in Paraguay.
5. New Guinea: Where "No Tickee, No Washee," May Be Good English.

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ILONGOT NATIVE OF THE PHILIPPINES REHEARSING AN OLD-TIME WAR DANCE

(See Bulletin No. 3)

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

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Costa Rica: The Banana Station on Lindbergh's Good Will Trip

COLONEL LINDBERGH, continuing his Good Will flight from Mexico City through Central America, will be dropping in upon the capitals of various countries.*

San José, capital of Costa Rica, is his last calling place before reaching Panama City. Huge plantations can be seen by the air traveler, revealing, before he lands, that Costa Rica is the land of the banana.

"The geography of Costa Rica," points out Paul B. Popenoe in a communication to the National Geographic Society, "is a repetition of that of its sister republics of Central America: masses of mountains arranged without much regard for symmetry, but furnishing many fertile valleys and occasionally spreading out into rich tablelands which provide admirable grazing; few navigable rivers or good harbors, and a low, rich coastal plain, hot and unhealthy.

Banana Plantations Developed by American Capital

"San José, the capital city, with 50,000 inhabitants, including its suburbs, is set near the center of the republic, in a broad valley surrounded by picturesque mountains. It is the nucleus of the coffee district, holds a strategic position with regard to the Aguacate Mountains, chief source of mineral wealth, and is favorably situated for shipping to all points in the interior. Most of the developed land is east and west of it, the territory north and south being much less utilized.

"Agriculture is the chief industry and resource of the republic. In fact, it is almost the sole resource, since manufactures are lacking and mining is almost suspended.

"Costa Rica's banana industry has been created by an American fruit company, which has a monopoly. The rankly fertile soil of the coast has been cleared of natural growth and plantations extended year by year, principally to the north of Port Limon, while light railways bring the crop to tidewater, where it is loaded on barges and taken to Port Limon for transshipment in the company's own steamers.

"The republic sends to the United States more bananas than any other Central American country excepting Honduras—from 7,000,000 to 9,000,000 bunches a year—and they are of high quality. The industry represents an entirely foreign development. Coffee represents large investments of local capital. A failure of the banana crop affects the profits of the fruit company;

*** Note:** Colonel Lindbergh's itinerary in Central America arouses interest in the geography of the various countries. Articles and illustrations for each can be found in the National Geographic Magazine: GUATEMALA, "Guatemala: Land of Volcanoes and Progress," November, 1926, and "The Foremost Intellectual Achievement of Ancient America," February, 1922; SAN SALVADOR, "Volcano-Girded Salvador," February, 1922; HONDURAS, "A Little Journey in Honduras," August, 1916; NICARAGUA, "Nicaragua, Largest of Central American Republics," March, 1927; COSTA RICA, "Costa Rica, Land of the Banana," February, 1922; PANAMA, "Haunts of the Caribbean Corsairs," February, 1922; Panama Canal Number, February, 1924, and "Who Treads Our Trails?" September, 1927. A map of the countries of the Caribbean was published February, 1922, and the accompanying articles were all devoted to the region. General articles on Central America are: "Countries of the Caribbean," February, 1913; "Shattered Capitals of Central America," September, 1919, and "How Latin America Looks from the Air," October, 1927.

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PICKING COFFEE IN COSTA RICA

The towering bananas are planted in the coffee groves to provide shade for the more delicate coffee tree. The tedious work of picking the ripe coffee berries is done chiefly by women and children. As the berries are picked they are taken by ox-cart to the near-by mill, where the pulp is torn away from the beans, which are allowed to ferment in water for a few hours, then dried for a week, polished, sacked, and shipped (see Bulletin No. 1).

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Commander Byrd Tells of Plans for Antarctic Exploration

IN EXPLANATION of his plans to explore the Antarctic Continent, and fly to the South Pole, Commander Richard E. Byrd, addressing Washington members of the National Geographic Society, recently said:

"It seems to me that the last great challenge to the explorer and the aviator comes from the Antarctic Continent. This vast area is in the throes of an Ice Age. It is the stormiest and coldest region in the world—the home of the blizzard. Terrific storms spring up suddenly in its unknown fastnesses of ice and snow and towering mountain peaks, and blow with great fury at times for days on end. The average wind velocity for the period of a year noted by Sir Douglas Mawson was 50 miles an hour.

An Area One and a Half Times the Size of the United States

"There is an area down there one and a half times the size of the United States never looked upon by human beings. The natural wonders that the explorer is sure to find capture my imagination. The great ice bulwarks which surround the continent have held back the explorer, but it seems to me that aviation can surmount and conquer these barriers and lay bare her secrets.

"Whatever trail we follow towards the South Pole, we will, from our flight altitude, be looking down into areas never before seen. Our base will be at the threshold of unexplored areas, and when we fly into them we hope, with our mapping cameras, to fill in some of the great white blank spaces now on the maps of school children, at the rate of 100 miles an hour.

"The primary object of the expedition is scientific and we hope to plant the American flag at the South Pole. The Antarctic Continent has more effect on weather conditions than any other region in the world. We will have a chance to study the glaciology of a land in the grip of an Ice Age. We hope to photograph geological sections of the rugged mountainous cliffs, and we shall search for fossil remains in efforts to disclose something of the past.

"We will carry our personnel and equipment to the great ice barrier which surrounds the continent in a ship specially made to withstand the ice, and we will make our base on the ice of the great Ross Barrier. We will take three planes and with them hope to lay bases down 100 miles apart towards the Pole, and on the very edge of the unexplored region. The work of the planes will be augmented by special motor toboggans and dog teams.

Will Take Six Eskimos and Other Experts in Arctic Work

"We expect to take six Eskimos with us, and at least twelve members of the expedition will be experts in Arctic work.

"Some months ago, when I informed the Board of Trustees of the National Geographic Society of our proposed expedition, I emphasized the importance of the flight and its good-will aspects.

"I like to think that our explorations of the great unknown Antarctic Continent, and our aerial conquest of the South Pole, if we succeed, will be an all-American achievement—and by that I mean both North and South America.

"The flyers who crossed the Atlantic last summer were hailed not only for their aerial victory but also as good-will ambassadors to Europe. Colonel

a failure of the coffee crop affects every bank in Costa Rica, and may even threaten the stability of the administration then in power, since voters do not always reason closely from cause to effect, in times of financial stringency.

Ripe Coffee Berries Are a Vivid Red

"Surely, not even Japan in cherry-blossom time can be more beautiful than the coffee country, occupying valleys at an elevation of from 3,000 to 5,000 feet, when the snow of the blossoms hangs like a mantle over the land and their perfume subdues the strong scents of the forest. Plantations are mostly small, peasant proprietorship being the rule, and each has its one-room house with a tile or corrugated iron roof covering men, women, and children, monkeys, parrots and dogs."

Bulletin No. 1, January 16, 1928.

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A YEAR-OLD COFFEE TREE

For the first two years the tree is kept in a nursery, and then transplanted to the orchard, where it requires three years to come to maturity. Its bearing life is from five to six years, after which it ceases to be profitable and is cut down. Costa Rican coffee finds its best market in London, while the United States seems partial to the Brazilian product, which constitutes more than half of the billion pounds we consume annually.

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Baguio: One Residence of the New Governor of the Philippines

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE has appointed a new governor for the Philippines who will leave shortly for his two residences in the Islands. One official residence is in the well-known capital of the Philippines, Manila, and the other is at Baguio, a newer and smaller capital high up in the mountains. Cold nights and mountain pines bring the governor, his staff, and most of the American colony in the Philippines up to the summer capital during the hot season.

While Manila and Zamboanga swelter in tropical heat, Baguio breezily flaunts her banner of firs and lichens. The township embraces a 20-mile square mountaintop park, a mile above sea level, reached by a road whose hairpin curves are a marvel of engineering.

Below stretch palms and *nipa* shacks. At the top is Baguio, watered by brooks and peppered with moss-covered boulders.

The government rest houses and hospitals are located here, together with a country club with an eighteen-hole golf course. Before the log fires of the hotel afternoon tea is drunk hot—not iced.

Plump Dogs Sold in the Baguio Market Place

Igorot caddies on the links sometimes forget their trousers and dining-room waiters are the sons of ex-head hunters. But the brilliant sunlight has the healing powers of Saranac and Interlaken. Invalids come from far Japan and the China coast. Provincial official families flock with the fashionable world of Manila and Hongkong to breathe Baguio's invigorating mountain air. Chief Justice Taft, during his term as governor, was one of the first Americans to discover its salubrious qualities.

Midway in the city stands the native market, seen at its best on Sunday morning. Each valley trail discharges a single file stream of sturdy pagan Igorots into the market place. The favorite costume with these men is a loin cloth and a khaki shirt. Ladies go in for clothes, but insist on color.

Abundant and odorous foods are offered for public consumption. Dog is the favorite delicacy and plump towsers on leash are fingered and bargained over. It is said that a recent attempt by the government office to suppress Sunday traffic in the interests of western public opinion merely resulted in smuggling of the fatted canines.

Bulletin No. 3, January 16, 1928.

Lindbergh has helped to cement the friendship of the United States and Mexico. The interest and cooperation of the South American Republics indicates already that ours will be a good-will flight so far as our neighbor continent is concerned.

The Society to Contribute from Research Funds

"Geography will make it that. South America extends 1,200 miles nearer the South Pole than any other continent. We will leave a South American base for our quest. If our meteorological observations are of value they will be of greatest immediate utility in weather predictions for South America.

"Though, as I have stated, our purpose is scientific exploration, a valuable by-product will be the cementing of good will between the United States and its historic friends, the ten Republics of South America. The airplane has proved itself a messenger of peace and good will. And if our flight adds to the ties of common government ideals, of national amity of long standing, and the friendliness already engendered by the Pan-American Good-Will flight of Major Herbert A. Dargue and his associates,* it will indeed have been worth while."

Commander Byrd, in his address, expressed to the members of the Society his appreciation of the grant of $25,000 toward his Antarctic Expedition, made by the Society's Board of Trustees.

Bulletin No. 2, January 16, 1928.

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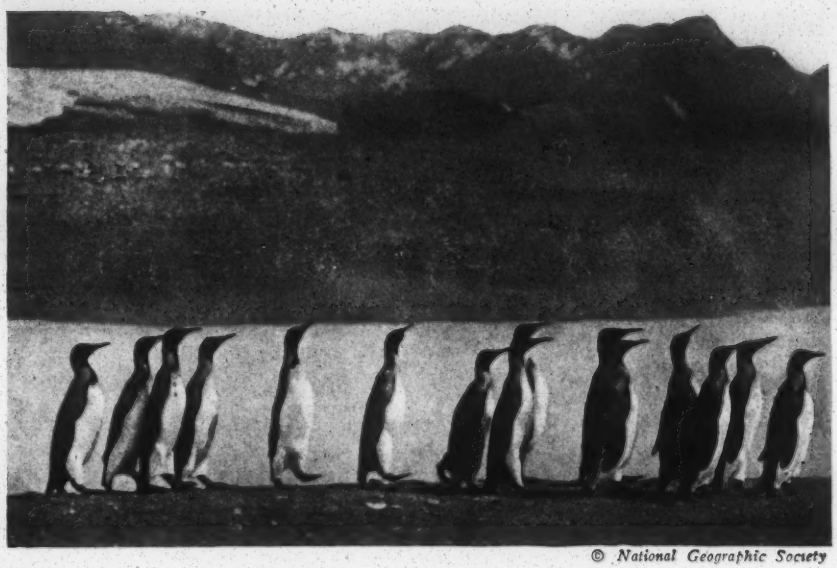
* Consult your library file of the National Geographic Magazine and see, in the issue for October, 1927, the article "How Latin America Looks From the Air," by Major Herbert A. Dargue, with 51 illustrations of South American countries.



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SOME CITIZENS OF THE ANTARCTIC CONTINENT

The funny penguins probably exhibit pride because they are among the very few "citizens" of the South Pole land area. This region has no varied animal life such as explorers have found on the islands near the North Pole.

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American Religious Sect Finds a New Home in Paraguay

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SON OF A PARAGUAYAN GAUCHO OR COWBOY

Like his father, he is an adept at handling the flat-thonged *revenca*, the native whip, whose sharp voice is worse than its stroke.

NUMBERS of Mennonites, an American religious sect, have been emigrating recently from the United States to the undeveloped country of Paraguay in South America. They had to sail to Buenos Aires and then steam miles up river before they reached the capital and chief port of Paraguay.

Paraguay is an inland country—the only South American country which never had a seaboard—and its capital, Asuncion, is a fairly busy port. Asuncion is 600 miles due east of the Atlantic coast and some 700 miles due north of Buenos Aires.

Ships land their cargoes at a riverside custom-house, which looks like the entrance to a Venetian hotel. They have steamed up the broad La Plata, swung into the Parana, and then into the Paraguay River. For a time on the up-river trip, after passing Corrientes, Paraguay lies to one's right and the Argentine province of Formosa to the left.

Asuncion Founded Before Pilgrims Landed

The traveler ascends the Paraguay with a growing admiration for the bold Spanish adventurers who pioneered in search of gold and silver. And he receives an impression of great age when he lands at Asuncion, a city founded nearly 400 years ago, the capital of a vast, rich region generations before the Pilgrims came.

The city conjures the picture of stirring events; Spanish intrigues, the Inquisition, the rise and fall of Jesuit power, the overthrow of Spanish rule, then the tyrants, dictators, revolutions, wars with neighboring nations—and one marvels that out of this historic welter comes to-day a

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WHERE BOYS AND GIRLS GO TO SCHOOL IN THE PHILIPPINES

One of the United States' greatest accomplishments in the Philippines has been the spread of education. More than a million Philippine boys and girls now go to school regularly. In the classroom they learn the English language which has gradually displaced the Spanish language in the Islands. Children learn not only reading, writing and arithmetic, but also elementary agriculture and hygiene (see Bulletin No. 3).

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New Guinea: Where "No Tickee, No Washee," May Be Good English

A CONFERENCE of officials and missionaries in New Guinea, the largest and most jungle-bound of the islands of the East Indies, is reported to have recommended the adoption of pidgin English as the official language.

Pidgin English, originating in China, has become a sort of Esperanto or universal language in the Far East as well as the language of the Chinese laundryman in the United States. It is widely used in Hawaii, but New Guinea is the first to recognize it.

The terrifying complexities of native languages have troubled missionaries to New Guinea far more than the native habit of collecting human heads.

Dialects vary not by provinces or physical divisions, but actually by villages. And the worst of it is that words pronounced in exactly the same way in one community may mean something entirely different a few miles away.

In one case it was found after some years of teaching that a word used to designate the Holy Spirit actually meant, in that locality, sweet potatoes!

Interior of Island Remains Unexplored Territory

The natives of New Guinea dwelling along the coast have become civilized. A number of them have become Christians. Cannibalism has disappeared there, but contact with the civilization of the whites has not been without its evils.

But the real New Guinea is in the interior of the great island where the natives are wholly savage and untouched by modern methods and thoughts and things. There head-hunting and the preservation of the skulls as gruesome trophies of achievement is practiced to-day as it was throughout the island a generation or so ago. Large areas have never been explored, and in other extensive regions the only evidence of control by the governments that have divided the island—Australia, Great Britain and the Netherlands—rests on heavily armed parties which pentrate the forests and mountains on brief expeditions. The heart of this vast island is a region into which both government officials and missionaries will move very slowly.

Except for his gruesome war practices, the New Guinea native is a child-like creature. Time means nothing to him. He insists on observing daily a long siesta, devoted to lounging or sleep. It is difficult to appeal to him by kindnesses. These he takes as a matter of course; and medical missionaries have even found that some of the tribes consider that they are doing the missionary a favor to let themselves be treated. Some have naively demanded tobacco for permitting their wounds to be dressed.

Greenland Only Island in World Larger Than New Guinea

The islanders fear the ghosts of their departed companions, and engage in fantastic and noisy ceremonies to frighten them away. Widows among these people have an unpleasant lot. They must keep their bodies smeared with white clay or slimy mud and for months must not let their faces be seen. Then they are forced to wear a characteristic costume and for a year or more are excluded from the life of the community.

In many of the interior communities one huge "long house" shelters scores of natives. In some localities the entire families live in these communal

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country which seeks peace, learning, trade and development of its marvelous resources.

Paraguay suffered from the conquest dreams of a would-be Napoleon, who began a war just sixty years ago which cost the lives of more than two-thirds of his countrymen. When this militarist died, in 1870, Paraguay began her rejuvenation by beating her swords into broadaxes and cutting down quebracho trees which yield an extract used in tanning leather. The United States is a heavy buyer of the yearly export of thirty million pounds of bark and tannin from this tree. The quebracho's outstanding characteristic is that its wood is one of the heaviest and toughest known varieties, hence its appropriate name, a Spanish appellation meaning "break axe."

Producer of Maté, a Tea Which Is a Favorite in South America

One species of the tree, the white quebracho, finds a place on the pharmacist's shelf—it is a specific remedy for asthma and croup.

Paraguay also grows a peculiar type of orange and extracts from the leaves thereof an oil, petitgrain, which supplies the base of a perfume. The country's crop of the more familiar varieties of oranges is exceedingly heavy; a native will eat two dozen or so a day, and even then a large part of the tremendous crop goes to waste.

A principal agricultural crop is the yerba maté, known as Paraguayan tea, which consists of pulverized leaves of a scrubby species of holly. Yerba maté is unknown to European or American tables, but it is universally used in South America. It has more "kick" than the tea we drink and counteracts the effects of a steady meat diet.

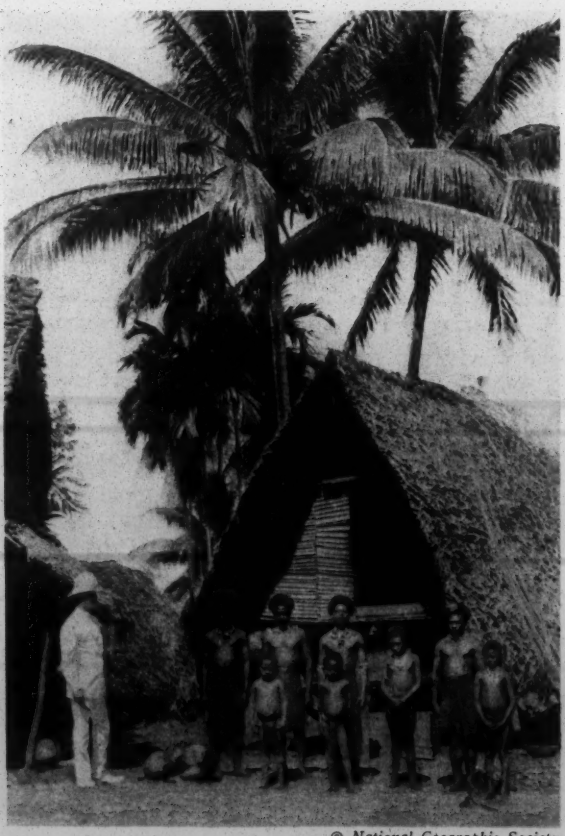
Paraguayans Have Very Little European Blood

Paraguay now is the third smallest country in South America and the smallest in population. Its tale of tragedy, which is unsurpassed in national histories, occurred in a beautiful natural setting. Its undisputed territory, some 75,000 square miles, lies between the Parana and the Paraguay Rivers; its claim against Bolivia is the title to 100,000 square miles spreading, edge-like, between the Paraguay and the Pilcomayo.

The country now has a million people, among whom the women still outnumber the men three to one, and these people have a smaller admixture of European blood than any others of their continent. They are proud of their Guarani Indian ancestry and, outside the towns, the Guarani language is more generally spoken than Spanish.

shelters; in others, however, they are club houses for the warriors alone, women and children being rigorously excluded. Where the "long house" is reserved for men, the women and children live in near-by smaller dwellings. These become veritable household factories, the women being constantly employed in preparing food and producing other things to meet the needs of their lords.

New Guinea, lying north of Australia, is rather off the course of the world's trade highways. Counting Australia as a continent, New Guinea is exceeded in size among the islands only by icy Greenland. It may be said, therefore, to be the largest island in the world which supports a considerable population. The number of its inhabitants is not definitely known but is believed to be close to one million. It is a tropical land, the Equator lying only about 20 miles off its northernmost point. Its area is close to 300,000 square miles, an area greater than half a dozen or more of the eastern and middle western commonwealths of the United States.



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NEW GUINEA, WHERE "BREAD" GROWS OVERHEAD

The coconut palm which shades the long house of a big New Guinea family, supplies the residents with food if they can climb a tree. The yam, taro, and banana thrive within a few yards, so natives live a life of little work and lots of sleep.